



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 10, 2022

Mr. Alexander Hamm
Supervising Radiological Health Specialist
Center for Health Facilities Regulation
Rhode Island Department of Health
Three Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5097

Dear Mr. Hamm:

On January 20, 2022, the Management Review Board (MRB), which consisted of U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) senior managers and an Organization of Agreement States MRB member, met to consider the results of the Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) review of the Rhode Island Agreement State Program. The MRB Chair in consultation with the MRB members, found the Rhode Island Agreement State Program adequate to protect public health and safety but needs improvement and compatible with the NRC's program. Because of the significance of the findings, the MRB determined that the Rhode Island Agreement State Program should enter a period of Heightened Oversight.

Heightened Oversight is an increased monitoring process the NRC uses to follow the progress of improvement needed in an Agreement State Program. It involves preparation of a Program Improvement Plan (PIP), bimonthly conference calls, and submission of status reports prior to each call with the appropriate Rhode Island and NRC managers and staff members. In our February 16, 2022, letter transmitting the final IMPEP report (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. [ML22032A318](#)), the NRC requested the Rhode Island submit a PIP for review within 30 days.

On February 17, 2022, the PIP ([ML22101A121](#)) specifying the actions to address performance issues identified during the 2022 IMPEP review was submitted to the NRC for approval. Based on the information provided in the PIP and during the Heightened Oversight call on March 9, 2022, the NRC has determined that the PIP adequately addresses each of the outstanding issues, provides estimated completion dates, and specifies responsibilities. As a result of our review, NRC staff approved the PIP as submitted.

The next bimonthly telephone call between the NRC and Rhode Island is scheduled to be conducted on May 25, 2022. Please submit an updated version of the PIP to the Regional State Agreements Officer at least five days in advance of this call and each subsequent call.

If there are any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact me at Kevin.Williams@nrc.gov or Monica Ford at Monica.Ford@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "K Williams".

Signed by Williams, Kevin
on 05/10/22

Kevin Williams, Director
Division of Materials Safety, Security, State,
and Tribal Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: RHODE ISLAND PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT PLAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
LETTER DATE MAY 10, 2022

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